

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method performed in a Financial Service Organization (FSO) computer system, the method comprising:

5 reading a processing relationship object from a database, wherein the processing relationship object describes a location of one or more processing parameter values in a first transaction-related data, wherein the one or more processing parameter values define an FSO entity in an FSO processing relationship tree structure stored in the database;

10 reading from the first transaction-related data the one or more processing parameter values described in the processing relationship object; and

transferring the one or more processing parameter values read from the first transaction-related data to a first memory.

15 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the processing relationship object and the FSO processing relationship tree structure are defined by a user of the FSO computer system during a configuration of the FSO computer system, and wherein the FSO computer system is configured to perform processing of transaction-related data.

20 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the first memory is a report record, and wherein the FSO computer system comprises a report record file comprising the report record.

25 4. The method of claim 3, wherein the database comprises a report record definition comprising the processing relationship object, and wherein the report record definition further comprises a report data definition describing a location of one or more data element values in the first transaction-related data.

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5. The method of claim 3, wherein the FSO computer system further comprises a plurality of transaction-related data, wherein the processing relationship object describes a location of one or more processing parameter values in each of the transaction-related data, wherein the first transaction-related data is one of the plurality of transaction-related data, and wherein the method further comprises:
- a) accessing a next transaction-related data from the plurality of transaction-related data;
 - b) creating a next report record in the report record file;
 - c) reading from the next transaction-related data the one or more processing parameter values described in the processing relationship object;
 - d) transferring the one or more processing parameter values read from the next transaction-related data to the next report record, and;
 - e) repeating a) through d) until each of the plurality of transaction-related data has been accessed;
- wherein one report record is created in the report record file for each of the plurality of transaction-related data.
6. The method of claim 5, further comprising sorting the report records in the report record file on the one or more processing parameter values in the report records.
7. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
- reading a report data definition from the database, wherein the report data definition describes a location of one or more data element values in the first transaction-related data;
 - reading from the first transaction-related data the one or more data element values described in the report data definition, and;
 - transferring the one or more data element values read from the first transaction-related data to the first memory.

8. The method of claim 6, wherein the first memory comprises a report record, wherein the FSO computer system comprises a report record file comprising the report record, wherein the FSO computer system further comprises a plurality of transaction-related data, wherein the processing relationship object describes a location of one or more processing parameter values in each of the transaction-related data, wherein the first transaction-related data is one of the plurality of transaction-related data, and wherein the method further comprises:
- a) accessing a next transaction-related data from the plurality of transaction-related data;
 - b) creating a next report record in the report record file;
 - c) reading from the next transaction-related data the one or more processing parameter values described in the processing relationship object;
 - d) transferring the one or more processing parameter values read from the next transaction-related data to the next report record;
 - e) reading from the next transaction-related data the one or more data element values described in the report data definition;
 - f) transferring the one or more data element values read from the next transaction-related data to the next report record; and
 - g) repeating a) through f) until each of the plurality of transaction-related data has been accessed;
- wherein one report record is created in the report record file for each of the plurality of transaction-related data.
9. The method of claim 8, further comprising:
- reading a report record from the report record file; and
 - transferring one or more of the data element values from the report record to an FSO report.

10. The method of claim 8, wherein the FSO report is a current FSO entity report configured for reporting the report records of the FSO entity defined by the one or more processing parameter values of the report record, and wherein the method further comprises:

- h) reading a next report record from the report record file;
- i) comparing one or more processing parameter values from the next report record to the one or more processing parameter values that define the FSO entity of the current FSO entity report;
- j) creating a next FSO entity report in response to the one or more processing parameter values of the next report record not being equal to the one or more processing parameter values that define the FSO entity of the current FSO entity report, wherein the next FSO entity report is configured for reporting the report records of the FSO entity defined by the processing parameter values of the next report record.
- k) designating the next FSO entity report the current FSO entity report in response to creating the next FSO entity report;
- l) transferring one or more of the data element values from the next report record to the current FSO entity report, and;
- m) repeating h) through l) until all of the report records in the report record file have been read.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein the FSO processing relationship tree structure comprises one or more branches, wherein each of the one or more branches comprises one or more FSO entities defined by one or more processing parameter values, wherein one or more FSO entities on a branch of the tree structure report to a first FSO entity higher on the branch of the tree structure, the method further comprising:

sorting the report records in the report record file prior to reading the report record from the report record file, wherein sorting the report records

comprises ordering the report records such that report records comprising processing parameter values for the one or more FSO entities below the first FSO entity on the branch of the tree structure appear before report records for the first FSO entity in the report record file;

wherein j) further comprises:

creating a summary report in response to the one or more processing parameter values of the next report record not being equal to the one or more processing parameter values that define the FSO entity of the current FSO entity report and being equal to the one or more processing parameter values of the first FSO entity; and

wherein the summary report comprises a summary of one or more of the data element values from the report records of the one or more FSO entities below the first FSO entity on the branch of the tree structure.

12. A system for processing FSO transactions, the system comprising:
a computer program;

a computer system;

wherein the computer program is executable on the computer system to execute:

reading a processing relationship object from a database, wherein the processing relationship object describes a location of one or more processing parameter values in a first transaction-related data, wherein the one or more processing parameter values define an FSO entity in an FSO processing relationship tree structure stored in the database;

reading from the first transaction-related data the one or more processing parameter values described in the processing relationship object; and

transferring the one or more processing parameter values read from the first transaction-related data to a first memory.

13. The system of claim 12, wherein the processing relationship object and the FSO processing relationship tree structure are defined by a user of the FSO computer system during a configuration of the FSO computer system, and wherein the FSO computer system is configured to perform processing of transaction-related data.

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14. The system of claim 12, wherein the computer system comprises a display device coupled to the computer system to display data.

15. The system of claim 14, wherein the display device is a display screen.

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16. The system of claim 12, wherein the computer system comprises a user input device coupled to the computer system to enter data.

17. The system of claim 16, wherein the user input device is a mouse or a keyboard.

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18. The system of claim 12, wherein the computer system comprises an output device coupled to the computer system to output data.

19. The system of claim 18, wherein the output device is a printer or a disk.

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20. The system of claim 12, wherein the first memory comprises a report record, and wherein the FSO computer system comprises a report record file comprising the report record.

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21. The system of claim 20, wherein the database comprises a report record definition comprising the processing relationship object, and wherein the report record definition further comprises a report data definition describing a location of one or more data element values in the first transaction-related data.

22. The system of claim 20, wherein the FSO computer system further comprises a plurality of transaction-related data, wherein the processing relationship object describes a location of one or more processing parameter values in each of the transaction-related data, wherein the first transaction-related data is one of the plurality of transaction-related data, and wherein the computer program is further executable on the computer system to execute:

- a) accessing a next transaction-related data from the plurality of transaction-related data;
- b) creating a next report record in the report record file;
- c) reading from the next transaction-related data the one or more processing parameter values described in the processing relationship object;
- d) transferring the one or more processing parameter values read from the next transaction-related data to the next report record, and;
- e) repeating a) through d) until each of the plurality of transaction-related data has been accessed;

wherein one report record is created in the report record file for each of the plurality of transaction-related data.

23. The system of claim 22, wherein the computer program is further executable on the computer system to execute: sorting the report records in the report record file on the one or more processing parameter values in the report records.

24. The system of claim 12, wherein the computer program is further executable on the computer system to execute:

reading a report data definition from the database, wherein the report data definition describes a location of one or more data element values in the first transaction-related data;

reading from the first transaction-related data the one or more data
element values described in the report data definition; and
transferring the one or more data element values read from the first
transaction-related data to the first memory.

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25. The system of claim 24, wherein the first memory is a report record, wherein the
FSO computer system comprises a report record file comprising the report record,
wherein the FSO computer system further comprises a plurality of transaction-
related data, wherein the processing relationship object describes a location of one
or more processing parameter values in each of the transaction-related data,
wherein the first transaction-related data is one of the plurality of transaction-
related data, and wherein the computer program is further executable on the
computer system to execute:

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- a) accessing a next transaction-related data from the plurality of
transaction-related data;
- b) creating a next report record in the report record file;
- c) reading from the next transaction-related data the one or more
processing parameter values described in the processing relationship
object;
- d) transferring the one or more processing parameter values read from the
next transaction-related data to the next report record;
- e) reading from the next transaction-related data the one or more data
element values described in the report data definition;
- f) transferring the one or more data element values read from the next
transaction-related data to the next report record, and;
- g) repeating a) through f) until each of the plurality of transaction-related
data has been accessed;

wherein one report record is created in the report record file for each of the
plurality of transaction-related data.

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26. The system of claim 25, wherein the computer program is further executable on the computer system to execute:
- reading a report record from the report record file; and
 - 5 transferring one or more of the data element values from the report record to an FSO report.
27. The system of claim 26, wherein the FSO report comprises a current FSO entity report configured for reporting the report records of the FSO entity defined by the
- 10 one or more processing parameter values of the report record, and wherein the computer program is further executable on the computer system to execute:
- h) reading a next report record from the report record file;
 - i) comparing one or more processing parameter values from the next report record to the one or more processing parameter values that
 - 15 define the FSO entity of the current FSO entity report;
 - j) creating a next FSO entity report in response to the one or more processing parameter values of the next report record not being equal to the one or more processing parameter values that define the FSO entity of the current FSO entity report, wherein the next FSO entity report is configured for reporting the report records of the FSO entity
 - 20 defined by the processing parameter values of the next report record.
 - k) designating the next FSO entity report the current FSO entity report in response to creating the next FSO entity report;
 - l) transferring one or more of the data element values from the next report record to the current FSO entity report; and
 - 25 m) repeating h) through l) until all of the report records in the report record file have been read.

28. The system of claim 27, wherein the FSO processing relationship tree structure comprises one or more branches, wherein each of the one or more branches comprises one or more FSO entities defined by one or more processing parameter values, wherein one or more FSO entities on a branch of the tree structure report
5 to a first FSO entity higher on the branch of the tree structure, and wherein the computer program is further executable on the computer system to execute:

sorting the report records in the report record file prior to reading the report record from the report record file, wherein sorting the report records comprises ordering the report records such that report records comprising
10 processing parameter values for the one or more FSO entities below the first FSO entity on the branch of the tree structure appear before report records for the first FSO entity in the report record file;

wherein j) further comprises:

creating a summary report in response to the one or more processing
15 parameter values of the next report record not being equal to the one or more processing parameter values that define the FSO entity of the current FSO entity report and being equal to the one or more processing parameter values of the first FSO entity; and

wherein the summary report comprises a summary of one or more of the
20 data element values from the report records of the one or more FSO entities below the first FSO entity on the branch of the tree structure.

29. A carrier medium comprising program instructions, wherein the program instructions are executable by a computer system to implement:

25 reading a processing relationship object from a database, wherein the processing relationship object describes a location of one or more processing parameter values in a first transaction-related data, wherein the one or more processing parameter values define an FSO entity in an FSO processing relationship tree structure stored in the database;

reading from the first transaction-related data the one or more processing parameter values described in the processing relationship object; and
transferring the one or more processing parameter values read from the first transaction-related data to a first memory.

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30. The carrier medium of claim 29, wherein the processing relationship object and the FSO processing relationship tree structure are defined by a user of the FSO computer system during a configuration of the FSO computer system, and wherein the FSO computer system is configured to perform processing of
10 transaction-related data.

31. The carrier medium of claim 29, wherein the first memory comprises a report record, and wherein the FSO computer system comprises a report record file comprising the report record.
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32. The carrier medium of claim 31, wherein the database comprises a report record definition comprising the processing relationship object, and wherein the report record definition further comprises a report data definition describing a location of one or more data element values in the first transaction-related data.
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33. The carrier medium of claim 31, wherein the FSO computer system further comprises a plurality of transaction-related data, wherein the processing relationship object describes a location of one or more processing parameter values in each of the transaction-related data, wherein the first transaction-related data is one of the plurality of transaction-related data, and wherein the program instructions are further executable by the computer system to implement:
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- a) accessing a next transaction-related data from the plurality of transaction-related data;
- b) creating a next report record in the report record file;

- c) reading from the next transaction-related data the one or more processing parameter values described in the processing relationship object;
- d) transferring the one or more processing parameter values read from the next transaction-related data to the next report record; and
- e) repeating a) through d) until each of the plurality of transaction-related data has been accessed;

wherein one report record is created in the report record file for each of the plurality of transaction-related data.

34. The carrier medium of claim 33, further comprising sorting the report records in the report record file on the one or more processing parameter values in the report records.

35. The carrier medium of claim 29, further comprising:
reading a report data definition from the database, wherein the report data definition describes a location of one or more data element values in the first transaction-related data;

reading from the first transaction-related data the one or more data element values described in the report data definition; and

transferring the one or more data element values read from the first transaction-related data to the first memory.

36. The carrier medium of claim 35, wherein the first memory is a report record, wherein the FSO computer system comprises a report record file comprising the report record, wherein the FSO computer system further comprises a plurality of transaction-related data, wherein the processing relationship object describes a location of one or more processing parameter values in each of the transaction-related data, wherein the first transaction-related data is one of the plurality of

transaction-related data, and wherein the program instructions are further executable by the computer system to implement:

- a) accessing a next transaction-related data from the plurality of transaction-related data;
- b) creating a next report record in the report record file;
- c) reading from the next transaction-related data the one or more processing parameter values described in the processing relationship object;
- d) transferring the one or more processing parameter values read from the next transaction-related data to the next report record;
- e) reading from the next transaction-related data the one or more data element values described in the report data definition;
- f) transferring the one or more data element values read from the next transaction-related data to the next report record; and
- g) repeating a) through f) until each of the plurality of transaction-related data has been accessed;

wherein one report record is created in the report record file for each of the plurality of transaction-related data.

37. The carrier medium of claim 36, wherein the program instructions are further executable by the computer system to implement:

reading a report record from the report record file; and

transferring one or more of the data element values from the report record to an FSO report.

38. The carrier medium of claim 37, wherein the FSO report is a current FSO entity report configured for reporting the report records of the FSO entity defined by the one or more processing parameter values of the report record, and wherein the program instructions are further executable by the computer system to implement:

entity on the branch of the tree structure appear before report records for the first FSO entity in the report record file;

wherein j) further comprises:

creating a summary report in response to the one or more processing
5 parameter values of the next report record not being equal to the one or more processing parameter values that define the FSO entity of the current FSO entity report and being equal to the one or more processing parameter values of the first FSO entity; and

wherein the summary report comprises a summary of one or more of the
10 data element values from the report records of the one or more FSO entities below the first FSO entity on the branch of the tree structure.

40. A method performed in a Financial Service Organization (FSO) computer system to generate an FSO report, the method comprising:

15 configuring a break key definition, wherein the break key definition comprises a break key identifier and a corresponding break key value associated with the break key identifier, wherein the break key definition is used to specify a format for the FSO report;

receiving an FSO data associated with an FSO transaction using a
20 report data gathering program, wherein the report data gathering program uses the break key definition to read the corresponding break key value associated with the break key identifier from the FSO data;

storing the FSO data in a database;

25 sorting the FSO data stored in the database by using the break key definition to generate sorted FSO data;

storing the sorted FSO data in the database;

collating the sorted FSO data by using a report formatting program
and the break key definition;

generating the FSO report consistent with the break key definition.

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41. The method of claim 40, wherein the break key identifier comprises one or more data elements of a report record definition, wherein the one or more data elements comprises a sequence number and a break level number.
42. The method of claim 41, wherein the one or more data elements further comprises a database identifier and a description.
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43. The method of claim 40, wherein configuring the break key definition comprises a user of the FSO computer system selecting the break key identifier from one or more properties of a report record definition using a display screen.
44. The method of claim 41, wherein the sequence number identifies the order the break key values appear in FSO report.
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45. The method of claim 41, wherein the break level number identifies the order in which the break key identifier is used to sort and collate the FSO data.
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46. The method of claim 42, wherein the database identifier is a processing relationship node identifier, wherein the processing relationship node identifier uniquely identifies a processing relationship node, wherein a processing relationship structure comprises the processing relationship node.
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47. The method of claim 43, wherein the user of an FSO computer system reconfigures the break key definition to change format of the FSO report.
48. The method of claim 40, wherein the database is a relational or an object oriented database.

49. A system for generating a FSO report, the system comprising:
a computer program;
a computer system;
wherein the computer program is executable on the computer system to execute:
- 5 configuring a break key definition, wherein the break key
definition comprises a break key identifier and a corresponding break key
value associated with the break key identifier, wherein the break key
definition is used to specify a format for the FSO report;
- 10 receiving an FSO data associated with an FSO transaction using a
report data gathering program, wherein the report data gathering program
uses the break key definition to read the corresponding break key value
associated with the break key identifier from the FSO data;
- 15 storing the FSO data in a database;
sorting the FSO data stored in the database by using the break key
definition to generate sorted FSO data;
- 20 storing the sorted FSO data in the database;
collating the sorted FSO data by using a report formatting program
and the break key definition;
generating the FSO report consistent with the break key definition.
50. The system of claim 49, wherein the break key identifier comprises one or more
data elements of a report record definition, wherein the one or more data elements
comprises a sequence number and a break level number.
- 25 51. The system of claim 50, wherein the one or more data elements further comprises
a database identifier and a description.

52. The system of claim 49, wherein configuring the break key definition comprises a user of the FSO computer system selecting the break key identifier from one or more properties of a report record definition using a display screen.
- 5 53. The system of claim 50, wherein the sequence number identifies the order the break key values appear in FSO report.
54. The system of claim 50, wherein the break level number identifies the order in which the break key identifier is used to sort and collate the FSO data.
- 10 55. The system of claim 51, wherein the database identifier comprises a processing relationship node identifier, wherein the processing relationship node identifier uniquely identifies a processing relationship node, wherein a processing relationship structure comprises the processing relationship node.
- 15 56. The system of claim 52, wherein the user of an FSO computer system reconfigures the break key definition to change format of the FSO report.
57. The system of claim 49, wherein the database is a relational or an object oriented database.
- 20 58. The system of claim 49, wherein the computer system comprises a display device coupled to the computer system to display data.
59. The system of claim 58, wherein the display device is a display screen.
- 25 60. The system of claim 49, wherein the computer system comprises a user input device coupled to the computer system to enter data.

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61. The system of claim 60, wherein the user input device is a mouse or a keyboard.
62. The system of claim 49, wherein the computer system comprises an output device coupled to the computer system to output data.
- 5 63. The system of claim 62 wherein the output device is a printer or a disk.
64. A carrier medium comprising program instructions, wherein the program instructions are executable by a computer system to implement:
- 10 configuring a break key definition, wherein the break key definition comprises a break key identifier and a corresponding break key value associated with the break key identifier, wherein the break key definition is used to specify a format for the FSO report;
- 15 receiving an FSO data associated with an FSO transaction using a report data gathering program, wherein the report data gathering program uses the break key definition to read the corresponding break key value associated with the break key identifier from the FSO data;
- 20 storing the FSO data in a database;
- sorting the FSO data stored in the database by using the break key definition to generate sorted FSO data;
- storing the sorted FSO data in the database;
- 25 collating the sorted FSO data by using a report formatting program and the break key definition;
- generating the FSO report consistent with the break key definition.
65. The carrier medium of claim 64, wherein the break key identifier comprises one or more data elements of a report record definition, wherein the one or more data elements comprises a sequence number and a break level number.

66. The carrier medium of claim 65, wherein the one or more data elements further comprises a database identifier and a description.
67. The carrier medium of claim 64, wherein configuring the break key definition comprises a user of the FSO computer system selecting the break key identifier from one or more properties of a report record definition using a display screen.
68. The carrier medium of claim 65, wherein the sequence number identifies the order the break key values appear in FSO report.
69. The carrier medium of claim 65, wherein the break level number identifies the order in which the break key identifier is used to sort and collate the FSO data.
70. The carrier medium of claim 66, wherein the database identifier comprises a processing relationship node identifier, wherein the processing relationship node identifier uniquely identifies a processing relationship node, wherein a processing relationship structure comprises the processing relationship node.
71. The carrier medium of claim 67, wherein the user of an FSO computer system reconfigures the break key definition to change format of the FSO report.
72. The carrier medium of claim 64, wherein the database is a relational or an object oriented database.
73. A method performed in a Financial Service Organization (FSO) computer system, the method comprising:
 configuring a report object, wherein the report object describes one or more methods and one or more properties associated with the report object, wherein the report object identifies a first report format and one or more data

sources, wherein each of the one or more data sources is identified by a unique identifier;

collecting a first report data from each of the one or more data sources identified by the unique identifier;

5 storing the first report data in a database.

10 74. The method of claim 73, wherein the report object is defined by a user of the FSO computer system during a configuration of the FSO computer system, and wherein the FSO computer system is configured to perform processing of transaction-related data.

75. The method of claim 73, wherein the report object continues to identify the first report format in response to modifying the one or more data sources.

15 76. The method of claim 73, wherein the first report format comprises a definition for a report page layout, wherein the report page layout identifies a location on a report page for the one or more data sources.

20 77. The method of claim 73, wherein the first report format comprises a definition for a report page function, wherein the report page function identifies one or more functions operable on the one or more data sources to produce an FSO report.

25 78. The method of claim 73, wherein the first report format comprises a definition for a report page content, wherein the report page content identifies one or more particular data sources selected from the one or more data sources to produce an FSO report.

79. The method of claim 73, wherein collecting the first report data is performed in response to a user of an FSO computer system executing a report program.

80. The method of claim 73, wherein collecting the first report data is performed in response to invoking a method on the report object.

5 81. The method of claim 73, wherein configuring the report object comprises configuring a report record definition, wherein the report record definition further comprises a report data definition describing the data source.

82. The method of claim 73, wherein storing the first report data comprises transferring the first report data to a first report record, wherein a first report record file comprises the first report record.

10 83. The method of claim 73, wherein the one or more data sources describe one or more processing parameter values in a processing-related data.

15 84. The method of claim 73, wherein the database is relational or object-oriented.

85. The method of claim 73, wherein the first report data comprises one or more processing parameter values.

20 86. The method of claim 73, wherein the one or more data sources is defined by one or more processing relationship objects associated with a processing relationship structure.

25 87. A system for processing FSO transactions, the system comprising:
a computer program;
a computer system;
wherein the computer program is executable on the computer system to execute:

configuring a report object, wherein the report object describes one or more methods and one or more properties associated with the report object, wherein the report object identifies a first report format and one or more data sources, wherein each of the one or more data sources is identified by a unique identifier;

collecting a first report data from each of the one or more data sources identified by the unique identifier;

storing the first report data in a database.

88. The system of claim 87, wherein the report object is defined by a user of the FSO computer system during a configuration of the FSO computer system, and wherein the FSO computer system is configured to perform processing of transaction-related data.

89. The system of claim 87, wherein the report object continues to identify the first report format in response to modifying the one or more data sources.

90. The system of claim 87, wherein the first report format comprises a definition for a report page layout, wherein the report page layout identifies a location on a report page for the one or more data sources.

91. The system of claim 87, wherein the first report format comprises a definition for a report page function, wherein the report page function identifies one or more functions operable on the one or more data sources to produce an FSO report.

92. The system of claim 87, wherein the first report format comprises a definition for a report page content, wherein the report page content identifies one or more particular data sources selected from the one or more data sources to produce an FSO report.

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93. The system of claim 87, wherein the collecting the first report data is performed in response to a user of an FSO computer system executing a report program.
- 5 94. The system of claim 87, wherein the collecting the first report data is performed in response to invoking a method on the report object.
95. The system of claim 87, wherein the configuring the report object comprises configuring a report record definition, wherein the report record definition further
10 comprises a report data definition describing the data source.
96. The system of claim 87, wherein the storing the first report data comprises transferring the first report data to a first report record, wherein a first report record file comprises the first report record.
- 15 97. The system of claim 87, wherein the one or more data sources describe one or more processing parameter values in a processing-related data.
98. The system of claim 87, wherein the database is relational or object-oriented.
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99. The system of claim 87, wherein the first report data comprises one or more processing parameter values.
100. The system of claim 87, wherein the one or more data sources is defined by one
25 or more processing relationship objects associated with a processing relationship structure.
101. The system of claim 87, wherein the computer system comprises a display device coupled to the computer system to display data.

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102. The system of claim 101, wherein the display device is a display screen.
103. The system of claim 87, wherein the computer system comprises a user input
5 device coupled to the computer system to enter data.
104. The system of claim 103, wherein the user input device is a mouse or a keyboard.
105. The system of claim 87, wherein the computer system comprises an output device
10 coupled to the computer system to output data.
106. The system of claim 105, wherein the output device is a printer or a disk.
107. A carrier medium comprising program instructions, wherein the program
15 instructions are executable by a computer system to implement:
 configuring a report object, wherein the report object describes one or
 more methods and one or more properties associated with the report object,
 wherein the report object identifies a first report format and one or more data
 sources, wherein each of the one or more data sources is identified by a unique
20 identifier;
 collecting a first report data from each of the one or more data sources
 identified by the unique identifier;
 storing the first report data in a database.
- 25 108. The carrier medium of claim 107, wherein the report object is defined by a user of
the FSO computer system during a configuration of the FSO computer system,
and wherein the FSO computer system is configured to perform processing of
transaction-related data.

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transferring the FSO report to an output device.

123. The method of claim 122, wherein the report object is defined by a user of the FSO computer system during a configuration of the FSO computer system, and wherein the FSO computer system is configured to perform processing of transaction-related data.
124. The method of claim 122, wherein the report object continues to identify the FSO report format in response to modifying one or more data sources used in the preparation of the one or more report records.
125. The method of claim 122, wherein the FSO report format comprises a definition for a report page layout, wherein the report page layout identifies a location on a report page for one or more data sources used in the preparation of the one or more report records.
126. The method of claim 125, wherein the one or more data sources describe one or more processing parameter values in transaction processing-related data.
127. The method of claim 125, wherein the one or more data sources is defined by one or more processing relationship objects associated with a processing relationship structure.
128. The method of claim 122, wherein the FSO report format comprises a definition for a report page function, wherein the report page function identifies one or more functions operable on one or more data sources used in the preparation of the one or more report records.

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129. The method of claim 122, wherein the FSO report format comprises a definition for a report page content, wherein the report page content identifies one or more particular data sources selected from one or more data sources used in the preparation of the one or more report records.
- 5 130. The method of claim 122, wherein the accessing the report object is performed in response to a user of an FSO computer system executing a report program.
- 10 131. The method of claim 122, wherein the accessing the report object is performed in response to invoking a method on the report object.
132. The method of claim 122, wherein the accessing the report object comprises accessing a report record definition, wherein the report record definition further comprises a report data definition describing a data source.
- 15 133. The method of claim 122, wherein the preparing the FSO report data comprises sorting the one or more report records as identified by the format of the FSO report.
- 20 134. The method of claim 122, wherein the database is relational or object-oriented.
135. The method of claim 122, wherein the first report data comprises one or more processing parameter values.
- 25 136. A system for processing FSO transactions, the system comprising:
a computer program;
a computer system;
wherein the computer program is executable on the computer system to execute the method of:

accessing a report object stored in a database, wherein the report object identifies a report format and describes a location of one or more report records corresponding to the report object, wherein each of the one or more report records is identified by a unique identifier;

5 preparing an FSO report by reading the one or more report records stored in the database, wherein a format of the FSO report is consistent with the report format identified by the report object;

transferring the FSO report to an output device.

10 137. The system of claim 136, wherein the report object is defined by a user of the FSO computer system during a configuration of the FSO computer system, and wherein the FSO computer system is configured to perform processing of transaction-related data.

15 138. The system of claim 136, wherein the report object continues to identify the FSO report format in response to modifying one or more data sources used in the preparation of the one or more report records.

20 139. The system of claim 136, wherein the FSO report format comprises a definition for a report page layout, wherein the report page layout identifies a location on a report page for one or more data sources used in the preparation of the one or more report records.

25 140. The system of claim 139, wherein the one or more data sources describe one or more processing parameter values in transaction processing-related data.

141. The system of claim 139, wherein the one or more data sources is defined by one or more processing relationship objects associated with a processing relationship structure.

142. The system of claim 136, wherein the FSO report format comprises a definition for a report page function, wherein the report page function identifies one or more functions operable on one or more data sources used in the preparation of the one or more report records.

143. The system of claim 136, wherein the FSO report format comprises a definition for a report page content, wherein the report page content identifies one or more particular data sources selected from one or more data sources used in the preparation of the one or more report records.

144. The system of claim 136, wherein the accessing the report object is performed in response to a user of an FSO computer system executing a report program.

145. The system of claim 136, wherein the accessing the report object is performed in response to invoking a method on the report object.

146. The system of claim 136, wherein the accessing the report object comprises accessing a report record definition, wherein the report record definition further comprises a report data definition describing a data source.

147. The system of claim 136, wherein the preparing the FSO report data comprises sorting the one or more report records as identified by the format of the FSO report.

148. The system of claim 136, wherein the database is relational or object-oriented.

149. The system of claim 136, wherein the first report data comprises one or more processing parameter values.

150. The system of claim 136, wherein the computer system comprises a display device coupled to the computer system to display data.
- 5 151. The system of claim 150, wherein the display device is a display screen.
152. The system of claim 136, wherein the computer system comprises a user input device coupled to the computer system to enter data.
- 10 153. The system of claim 152, wherein the user input device is a mouse or a keyboard.
154. The system of claim 136, wherein the computer system comprises an output device coupled to the computer system to output data.
- 15 155. The system of claim 154, wherein the output device is a printer or a disk.
156. A carrier medium comprising program instructions, wherein the program instructions are executable by a computer system to implement:
 - 20 accessing a report object stored in a database, wherein the report object identifies a report format and describes a location of one or more report records corresponding to the report object, wherein each of the one or more report records is identified by a unique identifier;
 - preparing an FSO report by reading the one or more report records stored in the database, wherein a format of the FSO report is consistent with the report
 - 25 format identified by the report object;
 - transferring the FSO report to an output device.
157. The carrier medium of claim 156, wherein the report object is defined by a user of the FSO computer system during a configuration of the FSO computer system,

and wherein the FSO computer system is configured to perform processing of transaction-related data.

- 5 158. The carrier medium of claim 156, wherein the report object continues to identify the FSO report format is response to modifying one or more data sources used in the preparation of the one or more report records.
- 10 159. The carrier medium of claim 156, wherein the FSO report format comprises a definition for a report page layout, wherein the report page layout identifies a location on a report page for one or more data sources used in the preparation of the one or more report records.
- 15 160. The carrier medium of claim 159, wherein the one or more data sources describe one or more processing parameter values in transaction processing-related data.
161. The carrier medium of claim 159, wherein the one or more data sources is defined by one or more processing relationship objects associated with a processing relationship structure.
- 20 162. The carrier medium of claim 159, wherein the FSO report format comprises a definition for a report page function, wherein the report page function identifies one or more functions operable on one or more data sources used in the preparation of the one or more report records.
- 25 163. The carrier medium of claim 156, wherein the FSO report format comprises a definition for a report page content, wherein the report page content identifies one or more particular data sources selected from one or more data sources used in the preparation of the one or more report records.

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164. The carrier medium of claim 156, wherein the accessing the report object is performed in response to a user of an FSO computer system executing a report program.
- 5 165. The carrier medium of claim 156, wherein the accessing the report object is performed in response to invoking a method on the report object.
166. The carrier medium of claim 156, wherein the accessing the report object comprises accessing a report record definition, wherein the report record
10 definition further comprises a report data definition describing a data source.
167. The carrier medium of claim 156, wherein the preparing the FSO report data comprises sorting the one or more report records as identified by the format of the FSO report.
- 15 168. The carrier medium of claim 156, wherein the database is relational or object-oriented.
169. The carrier medium of claim 156, wherein the first report data comprises one or
20 more processing parameter values.
170. The carrier medium of claim 156, wherein the carrier medium is a memory medium.

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